

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02671 260348Z  
ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SCA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00  
OPR-02 SSO-00 /021 W  
-----260353 055949 /63  
O 260256Z FEB 77 ZFF4  
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 4571

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2671

EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: CASC UR  
SUBJECT: FIRE IN MOSCOW'S HOTEL ROSSIYA

REF: (A) MOSCOW 2666, B) MOSCOW 2668, C) MOSCOW 2669

1. UPI HAS INFORMED US THAT ONE OF ITS REPORTERS ENTERED FIRE-DAMAGED SECTION OF HOTEL ROSSIYA. DURING 15 MINUTES BEFORE SHE WAS TOLD TO LEAVE SHE OBSERVED ELEVEN DEAD, ALL BUT ONE OF WHOM SEEMED MORE LIKELY TO BE VICTIMS OF SMOKE INHALATION THAN BURNS. SHE BELIEVES THAT TOTAL DEAD LIKELY TO BE SUBSTANTIALLY HIGHER. CORRIDOR IN WHICH SHE OBSERVED VICTIMS HAD SUFFERED SUBSTANTIAL SMOKE AND WATER DAMAGE, BUT WAS NOT FIRE DAMAGED.

2. AMERICANS WHO WITNESSED BLAZE REPORT IT WAS A MAJOR CONFLAGRATION, WITH WINDOWS BURSTING OUT AND FLAMES LEAPING FROM NUMEROUS POINTS IN BUILDING. OBSERVERS SAW PERSONS ON TWELFTH FLOOR OF HOTEL ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE BY TYING SHEETS TOGETHER AND DROPPING THEM OUT WINDOWS.

3. AS INDICATED SEPTELS, THERE ARE, AS OF 0430 FEBRUARY 26 MOSCOW TIME, A TOTAL OF SEVEN US CITIZENS REPORTED TO US AS HAVING BEEN STAYING AT ROSSIYA HOTEL WHO ARE STILL UNACCOUNTED FOR (MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM WILSON,  
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MR. AND MRS. SIDNEY VINCENT, MR. AND MRS. ED LIKOVER  
AND EDITH SCHWENK).

4. EMBASSY OFFICER WAS INFORMED AT BOTKIN HOSPITAL THAT TWO ADDITIONAL AMERICANS HAD BEEN ADMITTED FOR SMOKE INHALATION. BOTH ARE REPORTED IN GOOD CONDITION. NAMES AS REPORTED TO EMBOFF ARE AMY BROWN AND ROBERT BRAUN.

BRAUN MAY BE IDENTICAL WITH ROBERT BRAUN UNACCOUNTED  
FOR PER REF B. HEAD DOCTOR FURTHER ADVISED EMBOFF  
THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO OTHER ADMISSIONS TO BOTKIN HOSPITAL  
CONNECTED WITH ROSSIYA HOTEL FIRE.  
TOON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Sent Date:** 26-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977MOSCOW02671  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Message ID:** 9295acc9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION SCS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 77 MOSCOW 2666, 77 MOSCOW 2668, 77 MOSCOW 2669  
**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
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22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009